

Message Text

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SUBJECT: ISSUES FOR MEETING OF US-USSR JOINT COMMERCIAL
COMMISSION OPERATION OF NEW U. S. COMMERCIAL OFFICE

USDOC FOR BEWT/BOWDEN

REF: A) STATE 90490; B) MOSCOW 6603; C) STATE 97335

1. SUMMARY. IN REFTELS A AND C, DEPT RAISED PROBLEM OF SOVIET REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF VISAS TO U. S. BUSINESSMEN COMING TO MOSCOW IN CONNECTION WITH EVENTS STAGED IN NEW COMMERCIAL OFFICE. EMBASSY'S RESPONSE (REF B) OUTLINED POSSIBLE PORCEDURE FOR HANDLING VISA PROBLEM AND OTHER PROBLEMS WHICH MAY WELL ARISE DURING BREAK-IN PERIOD OF NEW OFFICE. ALTHOUGH OUR INITIAL REACTION HAD BEEN THAT THIS ISSUE WAS NOT RIPE FOR DISCUSSION AT UPCOMING MEETING OF U.S.- USSR JOINT COMMERCIAL COMMISSION, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT IMPORTANCE OF REACHING GENERAL UNDERSTANDING WITH SOVIETS ON OPERATIONS OF NEW OFFICE IN ADVANCE OF FIRST OFFICIAL EVENT SCHEDULED FOR NEW OFFICE (JULY 8-12 INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION QUALITY CONTROLS SEMINAR/ EXHIBITION) JUSTIFIES RAISING ISSUE AT THIS TIME. SUGGESTED PRESENTATION FOR U.S. SIDE FOLLOWS: END SUMMARY.

2. IN REF B, EMBASSY OUTLINED PROBLEMS WHICH MAY ARISE FOR OPERATIONS OF NEW OFFICE IN THREE BASIC AREAS: A) VISAS FOR BUSINESSMEN; B) ACQUIRING SOVIET PERSONNEL (TRANSLATORS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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BOOTH ATTENDANTS ETC) FOR EVENTS; AND C) ENSURING THAT APPROPRIATE SOVIET SPECIALISTS ATTEND SEMINARS/EXHIBITS. IN

EMBASSY' VIEW, IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE SEEK AT THIS TIME GENERAL UNDERSTANDING WITH SOVIETS COVERING ALL THREE AREAS, AND EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT FOLLOWING PRESENTATION BE MADE BY U. S. SIDE AT UPCOMING JOINT COMMISSION MEETING:

A) AS THE SOVIET SIDE IS AWARE, THE NEW U. S. COMMERCIAL OFFICE LOCATED AT 15 CHAIKOVSKIY STREET IN MOSCOW RECENTLY OPENED FOR OPERATIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS FACILITY, ESTABLISHED UNDER THE AGREEMENT SIGNED BY MINISTER PATOLICHEV AND SECRETARY SCHULZ JUNE 22, 1973, WILL PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR MUTUAL TRADE RELATIONS.

B) THE U. S. SIDE ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE OPERATIONS OF THE NEW COMMERCIAL OFFICE AND WE FEEL SURE THAT WE CAN COUNT UPON THE COOPERATION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND OTHER SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS IN ENSURING THAT THE NEW OFFICE CAN REALIZE ITS POTENTIAL.

C) SPECIFICALLY, WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE ASSISTANCE OF THE SOVIET SIDE IN THE FOLLOWING THREE AREAS:

1) IN THE YASEHPEIYAICALLY-SPONSORED SEMINARS AND SMALL EXHIBITIONS HELD IN THE NEW OFFICE, REPRESENTATIVES OF U.S. FIRMS PARTICIPATING IN THESE EVENTS WILL INFORM THE APPROPRIATE SOVIET EMBASSY OR CONSULATE THAT THEY WISH TO COME TO MOSCOW FOR A TRADE-PROMOTION EVENT SPONSORED BY THE U.S. COMMERCIAL OFFICE. THE U. S. COMMERCIAL OFFICE WILL NOTIFY THE MINISTRY OF

FOREIGN TRADE OF ALL SUCH EVENTS CONSIDERABLY IN ADVANCE, AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE MINISTRY'S ASSISTANCE IN ENSURING THAT THE NECESSARY SOVIET VISAS ARE ISSUED.

2) FOR OFFICIALLY-SPONSORED EVENTS IN THE NEW COMMERCIAL OFFICE, WE WILL NEED TO ENGAGE PERSONNEL THROUGH THE USSR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY TO SERVE AS INTERPRETERS AND BOOTH ATTENDANTS. WE HOPE THAT THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY WILL BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE SUCH PERSONNEL ON THE SAME BASIS AS IT DOES IN THE CASE OF EXHIBITIONS.

3) WE NATURALLY INTERESTED IN ENSURING THAT APPROPRIATE SOVIET OFFICIALS AND SPECIALISTS ATTEND THE SEMINARS AND EXHIBITS STAGED IN THE NEW COMMERCIAL OFFICE. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE HOPE THAT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND OTHER SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS WILL COOPERATE WITH THE STAFF OF THE COMMERCIAL OFFICE IN SELECTING SOVIET OFFICIALS AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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SPECIALISTS TO BE INVITED TO THESE EVENTS.

D) THE FIRST OFFICIALLY-SPONSORED EVENT SCHEDULE FOR THE NEW OFFICE IS A SEMINAR-EXHIBIT ON INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION QUALITY CONTROLS WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE JULY 8-12. WE HOPE THAT THE SOVIET SIDE WILL COOPERATE IN MAKING THIS FIRST EVENT AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS.
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